



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/728,073	12/04/2000	Erik Hennum	07042-152001	3770
24852	7590	04/14/2004	EXAMINER	
INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORP IP LAW 555 BAILEY AVENUE, J46/G4 SAN JOSE, CA 95141			CHUONG, TRUC T	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		2174		
DATE MAILED: 04/14/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/728,073	HENNUM, ERIK
	Examiner Truc T Chuong	Art Unit 2174

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 March 2004.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-45 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-45 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Applicant's arguments, see page 2, page No. 15, filed 03/19/04, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1-45 under **35 USC § 102** and **35 USC § 103** have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Grasso et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,892,909) and Beall et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,169,992 B1).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-12, and 15-45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Grasso et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,892,909).

As to claim 1, Grasso teaches a method, performed in a web-based environment on a computer system, of helping a user learn to implement an application, the method comprising: presenting an annotation page that includes one or more annotations descriptive (Wizard 400c, col. 20 lines 25-54 and fig. 4C) of a source file of a predetermined application (selecting applications, col. 20 lines 5-60), each annotation including keyword links, annotation links, detail of implementation of the application and explanation of code used in the application (col.

20 line 47-col. 21 line 14, elements 425-427 of figs. 4D & 4E, and elements 501, 505, 507, 509 of fig. 5A);

providing a link to a resource in an annotation (Wizard provides a list of particular sub-tasks, col. 19 lines 44-67, col. 20 lines 10-24, fig. 4D);

if the user selects a keyword link, presenting reference documentation associated with that keyword (selecting a document, col. 24 lines 36-55); and

if the user selects an annotation link, presenting another annotation descriptive of another source file of a predetermined application (launch a Web or HTML, col. 24 lines 36-55, figs. 12A & 12D).

As to claim 2, Grasso teaches the method of claim 1 further comprising performing a predetermined application and presenting one or more annotations descriptive of the performed application in coordination with performance of the predetermined application (col. 24 lines 36-55).

As to claim 3, Grasso teaches the method of claim 2 in which performing the predetermined application comprises receiving input from the user (the user can delegate these instructions to the system, col. 23 lines 1-16).

As to claim 4, Grasso teaches the method of claim 3 further comprising presenting another annotation page in coordination with performance of the predetermined application based on input from the user (New Release, col. 23 lines 15-30).

As to claim 5, Grasso teaches the method of claim 4 in which presenting another annotation page comprises:

automatically and simultaneously calling an annotation request module including application, file, class and function names of a program unit for which detail should be displayed (simultaneous live, real-time connections, col. 11 lines 54-67, col. 12 lines 3-19);

mapping the request to an annotation (Each application maps to one or more formats, col. 15 lines 48-67); and informing a browser window in the web-based environment to display the other annotation page (the user enable the system to easily accommodate specialized application, col. 14 lines 38-50).

As to claim 6, Grasso teaches the method of claim 3 in which another annotation page is presented in coordination with performance of the predetermined application (Each application maps to one or more formats, col. 15 lines 48-67).

As to claim 7, Grasso teaches the method of claim 6 further comprising automatically generating a global table of contents comprising links to annotations by parsing structured links in web pages including annotation pages (Management module 1556 allows the recipient user to manage his or her profile, col. 27 lines 20-46).

As to claim 8, Grasso teaches the method of claim 7 in which the links in the global table of contents are synchronized with presented annotations by highlighting links corresponding to a current annotation page (updating profiles if changes occur, col. 4 lines 38-54, ADB class, col. 57-60 of Appendix B).

As to claim 9, Grasso teaches the method of claim 8 in which the global table of contents is presented in a first frame of a first browser window, the annotation page is presented in a second frame of the first browser window, and the predetermined application is performed in a second browser window (DBA API, col. 53-56 of Appendix B).

As to claim 10, Grasso teaches the method of claim 2 in which performing the predetermined application comprises launching a Java applet or application (launching Java Applet, col. 25 lines 19-24).

As to claim 11, Grasso teaches the method of claim 10 in which launching the Java applet or application comprises calling a Java application programming interface to ask a web browser to show the annotation page (URL address and Java Applet, col. 25 lines 14-24).

As to claim 12, Grasso teaches the method of claim 2 in which performing the predetermined application comprises downloading a hyper-text markup language page containing a Java applet (Web browser access as an information recipient, the Java language is employed, col. 12 lines 3-19).

As to claim 15, Grasso teaches the method of claim 2 in which the annotation page is presented in a first browser window and the predetermined application is performed in a second browser window (fig. 12D).

As to claim 16, Grasso teaches the method of claim 1 in which application implementation detail includes text descriptive of the application, fragments of source code from the application, or both (Edit/Manage Profile, col. 18 lines 24-58, col. 20 lines 47-58).

As to claim 17, Grasso teaches the method of claim 16 in which source code fragments are imported directly from the source code file of the presented application (form, col. 30 lines 16-67).

As to claim 18, Grasso teaches the method of claim 1 further comprising automatically generating the annotation page descriptive of the source code file of a predetermined application (col. 27 lines 20-46).

As to claim 19, Grasso teaches the method of claim 18 in which generating the annotation page comprises:

receiving a source code file that has embedded text marked up with instructions (col. 24 lines 36-55, and col. 27 lines 21-46);

parsing the source code to determine a structure of the predetermined application (col. 20 lines 25-54); and

generating one or more annotations based on the predetermined application structure and instructions (The Wizard comprises a sequence of directed dialogs, with each particular dialog of the sequence directed at accomplishing a particular sub-task, col. 19 lines 44-67).

As to claim 20, Grasso teaches the method of claim 19 in which generating the annotation page comprises:

generating one or more annotation links for navigating the annotations of the predetermined application (sequence of sub-task, col. 19 lines 44-67);

generating application implementation detail based on the embedded information (Managing Profile and Information, col. 23 lines 39-65); and

generating one or more keyword links for reference documentation (personal profile of a user or a group, figs. 11D and 11F).

As to claim 21, Grasso teaches the method of claim 20 in which generating the annotation page comprises highlighting the keyword links and the annotation links in the annotation page (figs. 10B and 12A).

As to claim 22, Grasso teaches the method of claim 19 further comprising automatically updating the annotation page descriptive of the source code file of the predetermined application when an updated source code file is received (updating module, col. 13 lines 15-26).

As to claim 23, Grasso teaches the method of claim 1 further comprising automatically generating a global table of contents by parsing the plurality of annotations for annotation links (col. 13 lines 27-67, and storing profile information in relational table, col. 14 lines 10-16).

As to claim 24, Grasso teaches the method of claim 23 further comprising providing the global table of contents, in which the global table of contents comprises links to annotations (col. 20 lines 1-24).

As to claim 25, Grasso teaches the method of claim 23 further comprising generating a local table of contents, in which the local table of contents comprises links to web pages including annotation pages relating to an application (the client side is capable of dynamically sensing the appropriate method of communication, col. 11 lines 65-67, client-side Profile Manager, col. 21 lines 50-59).

As to claim 26, Grasso teaches the method of claim 25 further comprising providing the local table of contents when a local link in the global table of contents is selected (sub-task, col. 19 lines 43-67).

As to claim 27, Grasso teaches the method of claim 1 in which the presented annotation page is descriptive of the performed application and the annotation page is presented in coordination with performance of the predetermined application (Wizard for indicating which particular sub-task, col. 20 lines 1-24).

As to claim 28, Grasso teaches the method of claim 1 further comprising:

generating a source code file stripped of annotation mark up, the generated source code file including source code of the application but not including text from the annotations (cols. 37 line 21-col. 39 line 59);

presenting the stripped source code file (col. 40 lines 20-67); and

permitting the user to edit the stripped source code file (the user selecting to edit a profile item, col. 23 lines 57-67).

As to claim 29, it is individually similar in scope to claim 1 above; therefore, rejected under similar rationale.

As to claim 30, Grasso teaches a method, performed in a web-based environment on a computer system, for teaching a user to implement an application, the method comprising:

automatically assembling a global table of contents based on content in the environment, the global table of contents including a plurality of links to content within the environment (col. 20 lines 1-24);

providing the global table of contents (titles, col. 20 lines 25-46);

generating a local table of contents that includes links to content that orient the user within a local topic (sub-task, col. 19 line 44-col. 20 line 24); and

permitting the user to select links from the local table of contents to access local topics (selecting a particular task, col. 19 lines 64-67).

As to claim 31, Grasso teaches a method, performed in a web-based environment on a computer system, of teaching a user to implement an application, the method comprising:

providing a plurality of predefined interactive examples; and performing one or more of the predefined interactive examples in response to user selection (the class defines several helper methods for managing versions of the document, col. 34 lines 29-47);

presenting one or more annotations descriptive of the performed interactive example in coordination with performance of the predefined interactive example (confirm choices of fig. 13G); and

allowing the user to selectively explore different aspects of the performed interactive example, the annotations, or both (Back button of fig. 13G).

As to claim 32, this is a system claim of method claims 1 and 31. Note the rejections of claims 1 and 31 above.

As to claim 33, Grasso teaches the system of claim 32 further comprising a utility through which the user can access source code associated with a predefined interactive application (col. 24 lines 36-55).

As to claim 34, Grasso teaches the system of claim 33 in which the utility enables the user to view or copy a predefined interactive application's source code (edit profile, col. 18 lines 23-48).

As to claim 35, this is a system claim of method claim 16. Note the rejection of claim 16 above.

As to claim 36, this is a system claim of method claim 20. Note the rejection of claim 20 above.

As to claim 37, Grasso teaches the system of claim 32 further comprising a web-browser window that includes a framework that comprises:

a content frame that displays the annotations; a framework applet that displays a navigation bar; and a table of contents frame that displays a table of contents hierarchy of links (figs. 12A-12C).

As to claim 38, this is a system of method claim 10. Note the rejection of claim 10 above.

As to claim 39, Grasso teaches the system of claim 37 in which a Java Script automatically determines whether the framework is present in the web browser window, and if the framework is present, notifies the framework applet about the content in the framework (the user is already being notified, col. 24 lines 36-55).

As to claim 40, Grasso teaches the system of claim 39 in which the table of contents automatically highlights a link in the hierarchy based on the content in the framework ("Adaptive Distribution" support causes subscriber lists to automatically respond to changes in group composition, col. 4 lines 38-54).

As to claim 41, Grasso teaches the system of claim 40 in which the user accesses an annotation page by selecting a link in the table of content's hierarchy (col. 20 lines 47-67).

As to claim 42, Grasso teaches the system of claim 40 in which the user accesses an annotation page by interacting with the navigation bar (Next button of figs. 11C-11E, and 1205/1209 of fig. 12A).

As to claim 43, Grasso teaches the system of claim 40 in which the table of contents highlights the hierarchy based on an annotation page displayed in the content frame (fig. 12A).

As to claim 44, Grasso teaches the system of claim 37 in which the table of contents is dismissible or resizable (the elements include the ability to delete existing issues, modify

distribution policies, add or remove formats, modify the recipient list and recipient policies, and add or remove sites, col. 17 lines 37-42).

As to claim 45, Grasso teaches a web-based computer system for teaching a user to implement an application, the system comprising:

a web-browser window that includes a content frame, a framework applet, and a table of contents frame that displays a global table of contents hierarchy of links related to content in the content frame (col. 24 lines 1-60, figs. 12A-12D);

one or more annotations displayed in the content frame, each annotation describing a predefined interactive application and including links to other content (selecting a particular task, col. 19 lines 64-67); and

a table of contents window that displays a local table of contents hierarchy of links related to local content in the displayed annotation (col. 24 lines 1-60, Title and Summary of fig. 12A, and figs. 12C-12D show the related information).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 13 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Grasso et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,892,909) in view of Beall et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,169,992 B1).

As to claim 13, Grasso teaches the method of claim 2 in which performing the predetermined application (see claim 1 above), but Grasso does not teach the method of sending a common gateway interface request to a web server that launches the application in a window in the web-based environment. Beall clearly teaches CGI standard request from a World Wide Web to run a CGI program (col. 22 lines 61-67). It would have been obvious at the time of the invention that a person with ordinary skill in the art would want to have the Beall's CGI standard request in Grasso's GUI to perform the remote procedure call to be transmitted over the Internet using an http protocol (col. 23 lines 5-8) because it provides easy to access resources available in different environments, and it is also efficient to provide speedy remote access over communications.

As to claim 14, Grasso teaches the method of claim 13 in which the application returns a hyper-text markup language page that includes JavaScript to ask a web browser to display the one or more annotations (Java and HTML are used to communicate across the Internet, col. 12 lines 44-55).

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Anderson et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,502,805) teach links, hierarchy, profile, coding, annotations, and GUI (cols. 3-25 and figs. 1B-8C).

Griesmer (U.S. Patent No. 5,923,328) teaches annotations, sub-tree, displays, and controls (cols. 2-9 and figs. 1-5, 9-10).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Truc T Chuong whose telephone number is 703-305-5753. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th and alternate Fridays 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine L. Kincaid can be reached on 703-308-0640. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Truc T. Chuong

04/06/04

Kristine Kincaid
KRISTINE KINCAID
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100